

# 2011 AMHERST SUPPLEMENT TO THE COMMON APPLICATION

PLEASE MAIL TO:  
Office of Admission  
Amherst College  
PO Box 5000  
Amherst, MA 01002-5000

## PERSONAL DATA

Check One ☐ Early Decision ☐ Regular Decision

Legal name \_\_\_\_\_ Gender ☐ Male ☐ Female  
last/family first middle (complete) jr., etc.

Mailing address (use from \_\_\_\_\_ to \_\_\_\_\_)  
date date

\_\_\_\_\_  
number and street

\_\_\_\_\_  
city or town state country zip code + 4 or postal code

Phone at mailing address \_\_\_\_\_  
area code number

E-mail address \_\_\_\_\_  
*Please write legibly! Be sure to provide an e-mail address you check regularly and to alert us if you change your e-mail address.*

The following item is optional: Social Security number, if any \_\_\_\_\_

If you listed a third address (other than the mailing address or permanent home address listed on the Common Application) for your SAT, ACT or TOEFL registration, please list that here

\_\_\_\_\_  
number and street

\_\_\_\_\_  
city or town state country zip code + 4 or postal code

## FOR EARLY DECISION APPLICANTS ONLY

As an ED Applicant I confirm that if admitted, Amherst may share my name and my Early Decision agreement with other institutions.

\_\_\_\_\_  
signature date

\_\_\_\_\_  
parent/guardian signature date

## FOR ALL APPLICANTS

Have you applied to Amherst College before? ☐ Yes ☐ No If yes, when? \_\_\_\_\_

If you're sending the Optional Arts Background Supplement, please check here ☐

If you're sending the Optional Athletic Background Supplement, please check here ☐

Have you ever been dismissed, suspended or incurred serious disciplinary action at any secondary school you've attended? ☐ Yes ☐ No

Have you ever been arrested for anything other than a traffic violation? ☐ Yes ☐ No. If yes to either or both, please send a detailed explanation with your application.

Please complete and submit this form by November 15 (Early Decision) or January 1 (Regular Decision).

## HOW HAVE YOU LEARNED ABOUT AMHERST? CHECK AS MANY AS APPLY. LIST NAME(S) WHEN POSSIBLE:

☐ Amherst Publication \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ College Counselor \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Amherst Representative \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Siblings, parents or grandparents who attended \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Campus Visit \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Amherst College Website \_\_\_\_\_ ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

☐ Guide Books/Magazines/Websites \_\_\_\_\_

## FAMILY EDUCATIONAL RIGHTS AND PRIVACY ACT OF 1974 (BUCKLEY AMENDMENT)

Recommendations provide valuable information to the Admission Committee. If you are admitted and enroll, your recommendations are added to your educational record and sometimes help deans make rooming assignments and advising decisions. Under the provisions of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act you have the right, if you enroll at Amherst, to review your educational records. The Act further provides that you may waive your right to see recommendations for admission. Please indicate your choice by checking the appropriate box and signing your name.

I ☐ waive ☐ do not waive my access to my admission recommendations.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE DETACH ALONG PERFORATION

SUPPLEMENT ESSAY

In addition to the essay you’re asked to write as part of the Common Application, Amherst requires a second essay (250–500 words). We do not offer interviews as part of the application process at Amherst. However, your essays provide you with an opportunity to speak to us. Please keep this in mind when responding to one of the following quotations. **It is not necessary to research, read, or refer to the texts from which these quotations are taken; we are looking for original, personal responses to these short excerpts.**

- 1) The world as revealed by science is far more beautiful, and far more interesting, than we had any right to expect. Science is valuable because of the view of the universe that it gives.”  
George Greenstein, Sidney Dillon Professor of Astronomy, Amherst College
- 2) “It seems to me incumbent upon this and other schools’ graduates to recognize their responsibility to the public interest...unless the graduates of this college...are willing to put back into our society those talents, the broad sympathy, the understanding, the compassion...then obviously the presuppositions upon which our democracy are based are bound to be fallible.”  
John F. Kennedy, at the ground breaking for the Amherst College Frost Library, October 26, 1963
- 3) “Stereotyped beliefs have the power to become self-fulfilling prophecies for behavior.”  
From *Men and Women in Interaction, Reconsidering the Differences* by Elizabeth Aries, Professor of Psychology, Amherst College
- 4) “Justice seems to require us to take the perspective of an impartial observer...Often this perspective seems to clash with the perspective that most of us take in our daily lives...where ties of love, commitment, friendship and professional responsibilities seem not only to permit, but to demand, that we treat people unequally.”  
From *Amherst*, Summer 2001, Jyl Gentzler, Professor of Philosophy, Amherst College
- 5) “Only in the mystery novel are we delivered final and unquestionable solutions. The joke to me is that fiction gives you a truth that reality can’t deliver.”  
Scott Turow, lawyer, author, Amherst College Trustee, Amherst Class of 1970
- 6) “Young as she is, the stuff  
Of her life is a great cargo, and some of it heavy:  
I wish her a lucky passage.”  
From *The Writer* by Richard Wilbur, Amherst Class of 1942, 1987 Poet Laureate of the United States

SHORT ANSWER

To help us further get to know you, please respond to the following questions in the space provided. (Please use no more than 30 words.)

What is your favorite section of the library or bookstore?\_\_\_\_\_

What is your greatest source of inspiration?\_\_\_\_\_

OPTIONAL SCIENCE SUPPLEMENT

Candidates who have completed a significant piece of *independent* scientific research may include a brief abstract describing the work (50–75 words maximum) in the space below:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

By my signature below, I affirm that all the information in my application is factually correct and that my essays and other creative submissions are solely my own work.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_Date\_\_\_\_\_

